

Dated: March 14, 2000.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory
Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 00-6793 Filed 3-17-00 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Research on Women's Health.

The meeting will be open to the public with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

Name of Committee: Advisory Committee on Research on Women's Health.

Date: April 10, 2000.

Time: 8:30 am to 5 pm.

Agenda: To provide advice on appropriate research activities with respect to women's health and related studies to be undertaken by the national research institutes, to provide recommendations regarding ORWH activities, and to assist in monitoring compliance regarding the inclusion of women in clinical research.

Place: 9000 Rockville Pike, Building 31C, Conference Room 6, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Joyce Rudick, Director, Programs & Management, Office of Research on Women's Health, Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, Building 1, Room 201, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301/402-1770.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.14, Intramural Research Training Award; 93.187, Undergraduate Scholarship Program for the Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds; 93.22, Clinical Research Loan Repayment Program for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds; 93.232, Loan Repayment Program for Research Generally; 93.39, Academic Research Enhancement Award; 93.936, NIH Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome Research Loan Repayment Program, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 14, 2000.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Solicitation of Comments and Nominations

National Toxicology Program; National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction solicits comments on eleven chemicals being considered for further evaluation by the Center; solicits nominations of other chemicals for future consideration; and describes the Center's evaluation process.

Background

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences have established the NTP Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction (63 FR 68782, No. 239). The purpose of the Center is to provide timely and unbiased, scientifically sound evaluations of human and experimental evidence for adverse effects on reproduction, including development, caused by agents to which humans may be exposed. The goals of the individual assessments are to (1) interpret for and provide to the general public information about the strength of scientific evidence that a given exposure or exposure circumstance poses a hazard to reproduction and the health and welfare of children; (2) provide regulatory agencies with objective and scientifically credible assessments of reproductive/development health effects associated with exposure to specific chemicals or classes of chemicals, including descriptions of any uncertainties associated with the assessment of risks; and (3) identify knowledge gaps to help establish research and testing priorities.

Chemicals Recommended for Further Consideration

The CERHR Core Committee, made up of representatives of NTP-participating agencies, reviewed chemical nominations for further study and recommended the following eleven chemicals for further consideration. Dossiers will be prepared on these chemicals reviewing information on their use, production volume, and general, reproductive, and developmental toxicity. Selection of candidate chemicals will be based upon production volume, extent of human exposures, public concern about chemical hazard, published evidence of reproductive or developmental toxicity,

and evaluation of any additional information submitted by the public in response to this announcement. The chemicals to be considered for Expert Panel evaluation in the year 2000 are listed below with their Chemical Abstracts Service registry numbers (where available).

1-Bromopropane (106-94-5)

2-Bromopropane (75-26-3)

Dimethyl Methyl Phosphonate (DMMP)
(756-79-6)

Ethylene glycol (107-21-1)

Glycol ethers (not available)

Glyphosate (1071-83-6)

Methanol (67-56-1)

Nicotine (54-11-5)

Phenol (108-95-2)

Thimerosal (54-64-8)

Toluene (108-88-3)

Request for Public Comment on Candidate Chemicals

The Center invites public comment on the candidate chemicals listed above, including toxicology information from completed or ongoing studies, and information on planned studies, as well as current production data, human exposure information, use patterns, and environmental occurrence. Written comments received May 4, 2000, will be considered in the review. Please forward comments and chemical information to: Dr. John Moore, CERHR, 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22314-2808, Phone: (703) 838-9440.

Request for Nominations for Future Reviews

Nominations of chemicals for future evaluations are also encouraged. Any individual or organization may nominate. Nominations should include the chemical name, Chemical Abstract Service registry number (if known), reason for the nomination, and references or articles on the chemical, when possible. The nominator's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address should be included with the nomination. Nominations can be made through the Center's web site or by mail to Dr. John Moore at the address listed above.

Review Process

The Center's review process is outlined below:

- Chemical Nominations
 - open nomination process includes interested individuals, NTP Executive Committee, Federal Agencies, NTP Staff, Labor Unions, Industry
- CERHR multi-agency Core Committee
 - nominations reviewed quarterly by Core Committee made up of NTP

- Agency representatives.
- highest priority chemicals identified based on production volume, evidence of reproductive or developmental toxicity, human exposure, public concern.
- candidate chemicals transmitted to Associate Director, NTP
- Center staff prepares dossiers on candidate chemicals
- First Solicitation of Public Comment
 - notice of candidate chemicals and request for public comment published in **Federal Register**, NTP Newsletter and listserver, and CERHR website
 - public comments are compiled by Center staff for review by the Core Committee
- CERHR Core Committee Review
 - reviews dossiers and material submitted in public comments
 - recommends list of prioritized chemicals to Associate Director, NTP, for final selection.
- Second Solicitation of Public Comment
 - Federal Register** notice announces selected chemical(s) and solicits public comment, new data, information on exposure, and nominations of individuals qualified to serve on the Expert Panel.
- Expert Panel Meeting
 - the Panel meets in public session to discuss their review of the literature and to prepare the Panel report.
 - meeting includes time for presentation of public comments.
- Final Solicitation of Public Comment
 - Federal Register** notice announces availability of Expert Panel report and requests public comment.
- Expert Panel Report is submitted for publication in Environmental Health Perspectives, monograph section
- NTP Center Report Transmitted and Published
 - NTP staff prepares an NTP Center Report on the chemical(s) evaluated (intended for a readership of non-scientists). This report integrates background information on the chemical evaluated, the findings in the Expert Panel Report, a summary of the public comments, and a discussion of any recent relevant study findings.
 - the Center Report is distributed to Federal and state agencies, interested stakeholders, and the public, and is published in EHP, monthly section.

Further information about the NTP Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction can be obtained

through the Center's web site: <http://cerhr.niehs.nih.gov> or by contacting: Michael D. Shelby, Ph.D., Director, CERHR, NIEHS/NTP B3-09, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, telephone 919-541-3455, facsimile 919-541-4634 or John A. Moore, D.V.M., Principal Investigator, CERHR, 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22314, 703-838-9440, 703-684-2223.

Dated: January 10, 2000.

Kenneth Olden,

Director, NIEHS.

[FR Doc. 00-6768 Filed 3-17-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Diamond Fork System Proposed Action Modifications

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary—Water and Science, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the draft Environmental Assessment for the Diamond Fork System Proposed Action Modifications.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD), Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission (Mitigation Commission), and the Department of the Interior (Interior) announces the availability of the draft Environmental Assessment for the Diamond Fork System Proposed Action Modifications (EA). The draft EA is now available to the public for review and comment.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before April 27, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the draft EA should be addressed to: Harold Sersland, Environmental Program Manager, Central Utah Water Conservancy District, 355 West University Parkway, Orem, Utah 84058-7303, (801) 226-7110.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Draft Environmental Assessment—*The draft EA addresses modifications to the Proposed Action as a result of value engineering studies on the Proposed Action of the Diamond Fork System 1999 Final Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FSFEIS) that was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency July 1, 1999. A Record of Decision (1999 ROD) documenting the selection of the Proposed Action Alternative as

presented in the FSFEIS was signed by the Assistant Secretary—Water and Science on September 29, 1999. The 1999 ROD required value engineering studies, pursuant to public law 104-106, to be conducted on the Proposed Action to determine whether the design could be improved to further reduce environmental impacts or project construction costs. Based on value engineering studies the following modifications to the Proposed Action are addressed in the draft EA: (1) replacing a series of tunnels and pipelines with one tunnel and one pipeline; (2) relocating flow control facilities; and (3) adjusting the alignment of the Diamond Fork System. The proposed modifications would reduce environmental impacts and reduce project construction costs while not changing the Proposed Action's purposes or needs as described in the FSFEIS and 1999 ROD.

Background

The Diamond Fork System is one of six systems of the Bonneville Unit of the Central Utah Project that would develop central Utah's water resources for irrigation, municipal and industrial supply, fish and wildlife, and recreation. It was first identified in the Bonneville Unit Final EIS in 1973 and described in detail in the: Diamond Fork Power System Final EIS in 1984; Diamond Fork System Final Supplement to the Final EIS in 1990, and the Diamond Fork System Final Supplement to the Final EIS in 1999. The Diamond Fork System has been modified over the years and has been partially constructed.

Proposed Action Modifications

The Proposed Action Modifications would: (1) Maintain the statutorily mandated minimum flows in Diamond Fork Creek and Sixth Water Creek; (2) implement Interior's environmental commitments from the 1995 and 1999 Records of Decision; (3) meet the CUWCD's Municipal and Industrial water contractual commitments to Salt Lake, Utah and Wasatch Counties; and (4) provide the Mitigation Commission the opportunity and flexibility for future restoration of aquatic and riparian habitat in Sixth Water and Diamond Fork creeks to protect water quality and threatened species in Diamond Fork Creek.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Copies of the draft EA or information on matters related to this notice can be obtained on request from: Ms. Nancy Hardman, Central Utah Water Conservancy District, 355 West University Parkway,